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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

26111 7590 03/12/2012
STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.
1100 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, DC 20005

EXAMINER

JOHNSON, CARLTON

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2436

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2012

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/659,368

09/11/2003

Brian N. Belanger

2222.3810000

3018

TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DATA ACCESS AND CONTROL

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1740	\$0	\$0	\$1740	06/12/2012

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED. THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN THREE MONTHS FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED. SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

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III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

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**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

CURRENT CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS (Note: Use Block 1 for any change of address)

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WASHINGTON, DC 20005

Certificate of Mailing or Transmission

I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/659,368	09/11/2003	Brian N. Belanger	2222.3810000	3018
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TITLE OF INVENTION: SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR DATA ACCESS AND CONTROL

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1740	\$0	\$0	\$1740	06/12/2012

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
JOHNSON, CARLTON	2436	713-200000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
- ☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. **Use of a Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
- (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
- 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE (B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent) : ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
- ☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
- ☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s); (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
- ☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
- ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____

Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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EXAMINER

JOHNSON, CARLTON

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2436

DATE MAILED: 03/12/2012

Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 695 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 695 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Privacy Act Statement

The Privacy Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-579) requires that you be given certain information in connection with your submission of the attached form related to a patent application or patent. Accordingly, pursuant to the requirements of the Act, please be advised that: (1) the general authority for the collection of this information is 35 U.S.C. 2(b)(2); (2) furnishing of the information solicited is voluntary; and (3) the principal purpose for which the information is used by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is to process and/or examine your submission related to a patent application or patent. If you do not furnish the requested information, the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may not be able to process and/or examine your submission, which may result in termination of proceedings or abandonment of the application or expiration of the patent.

The information provided by you in this form will be subject to the following routine uses:

1. The information on this form will be treated confidentially to the extent allowed under the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552) and the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C. 552a). Records from this system of records may be disclosed to the Department of Justice to determine whether disclosure of these records is required by the Freedom of Information Act.
2. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, in the course of presenting evidence to a court, magistrate, or administrative tribunal, including disclosures to opposing counsel in the course of settlement negotiations.
3. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Member of Congress submitting a request involving an individual, to whom the record pertains, when the individual has requested assistance from the Member with respect to the subject matter of the record.
4. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a contractor of the Agency having need for the information in order to perform a contract. Recipients of information shall be required to comply with the requirements of the Privacy Act of 1974, as amended, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 552a(m).
5. A record related to an International Application filed under the Patent Cooperation Treaty in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the International Bureau of the World Intellectual Property Organization, pursuant to the Patent Cooperation Treaty.
6. A record in this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to another federal agency for purposes of National Security review (35 U.S.C. 181) and for review pursuant to the Atomic Energy Act (42 U.S.C. 218(c)).
7. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the Administrator, General Services, or his/her designee, during an inspection of records conducted by GSA as part of that agency's responsibility to recommend improvements in records management practices and programs, under authority of 44 U.S.C. 2904 and 2906. Such disclosure shall be made in accordance with the GSA regulations governing inspection of records for this purpose, and any other relevant (i.e., GSA or Commerce) directive. Such disclosure shall not be used to make determinations about individuals.
8. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to the public after either publication of the application pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 122(b) or issuance of a patent pursuant to 35 U.S.C. 151. Further, a record may be disclosed, subject to the limitations of 37 CFR 1.14, as a routine use, to the public if the record was filed in an application which became abandoned or in which the proceedings were terminated and which application is referenced by either a published application, an application open to public inspection or an issued patent.
9. A record from this system of records may be disclosed, as a routine use, to a Federal, State, or local law enforcement agency, if the USPTO becomes aware of a violation or potential violation of law or regulation.

Notice of Allowability	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/659,368	BELANGER ET AL.	
	Examiner	Art Unit	
	CARLTON JOHNSON	2436	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 2-2-2012.
2. ☐ An election was made by the applicant in response to a restriction requirement set forth during the interview on ____; the restriction requirement and election have been incorporated into this action.
3. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22,24-38 and 41-44.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: ____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date ____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date ____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).**
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3. <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date ____ 4. <input type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 5. <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application 6. <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date ____. 7. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Amendment/Comment 8. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance 9. <input type="checkbox"/> Other ____. |
|--|---|

/Carlton V. Johnson/
Examiner, Art Unit 2436

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Amirali Sharifi, Registration No. 68,887, on March 8, 2012.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims **1, 2, 7, 15, 16, 23, 24, 25, 29, 30** have been amended as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, using a processing device, a first request, from a first sponsor of an access candidate, for access to a first security level in a computer network, wherein the first security level secures computational resources for accessing electronic data;

determining, using the processing device, whether access candidate attributes satisfy access requirements of the resources, ~~wherein the access candidate attributes are revisable based, at least in part, on a determination indicating that access to the first level is prohibited;~~ such that:

if access to the first security level is prohibited, allowing the first sponsor of the access candidate to revise the access candidate attributes and resubmit the revised access candidate attributes for reconsideration and repeating the determining;

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~~if access to the first security level is not prohibited, granting, using the processing device, access to the first security level based on a determination indicating that access to the first level is not prohibited;~~

receiving, using the processing device, a second request, from a second sponsor of the access candidate, for access to a second security level in the computer network in response to the granting of access to the first security level, wherein the second security level secures the electronic data;

determining, using the processing device, whether the access candidate attributes satisfy access requirements of the electronic data secured by the second security level;

obtaining authorization for the second request from a resolution authority if the access candidate attributes fail to satisfy the access requirements of the electronic data in response to a determination indicating that access to the second security level is prohibited; and

in response to obtaining the authorization from the resolution authority, granting the access candidate access to the second security level.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 1, further comprising granting access to the second security level ~~in response to determining that~~ if the access candidate attributes satisfy the access requirements of the electronic data.

7. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

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receiving, using a processing device, a first request, from a first sponsor of an access candidate, for physical access to a computer network;

determining, using the processing device, whether access candidate attributes satisfy access requirements of physical access, ~~wherein the access candidate attributes are revisable based, at least in part, on a determination indicating that physical access is prohibited;~~ such that

if physical access to the computer network is prohibited, allowing the first sponsor of the access candidate to revise the access candidate attributes and resubmit the revised access candidate attributes for reconsideration and repeating the determining;

if physical access to the computer network is not prohibited, granting, ~~using the processing device,~~ the physical access to the computer network ~~based on a determination indicating that physical access is not prohibited;~~

receiving, using the processing device, a second request, from a second sponsor of the access candidate, for access to electronic data in the computer network in response to the granting of physical access to the computer network;

determining, using the processing device, whether the access candidate attributes satisfy access requirements of the electronic data;

obtaining authorization for the second request from a resolution authority if the access candidate attributes fail to satisfy access requirements of the electronic data in response to a determination indicating that access to the electronic data is prohibited; and

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in response to obtaining the authorization from the resolution authority, granting the access candidate access to the electronic data.

15. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

identifying, using a processing device, a plurality of data subsets of electronic data, wherein respective data subsets correspond to respective sets of access requirements;

determining, using the processing device, at least one data class associated with the respective data subsets, the at least one data class identifying at least a citizenship requirement and a location requirement for access to data associated with the at least one data class;

receiving, using the processing device, a first request, from a first sponsor of an access candidate, for access to a first security level in a computer network, wherein the first security level secures physical access to a computer workstation for accessing the electronic data, the first request including access attributes of the access candidate comprising an indication of a citizenship status of the access candidate, an indication of a current location of the access candidate, and an indication of an existence of a data access agreement with the access candidate;

determining, using the processing device, whether the access candidate attributes satisfy access requirements of the first security level, ~~wherein the access candidate attributes are revisable based, at least in part, on a determination indicating that access to the first security level is prohibited; such that:~~

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if access to the first security level is prohibited, allowing the first sponsor of the access candidate to revise the access candidate attributes and resubmit the revised access candidate attributes for reconsideration and repeating the determining;

if access to the first security level is not prohibited, granting, ~~using the processing device,~~ access to the first security level ~~based on a determination indicating that access to the first security level is not prohibited;~~

receiving, using the processing device, a second request, from a second sponsor of the access candidate, for access to a second security level in the computer network in response to the granting of access to the first security level, wherein the second security level secures access to at least one of the plurality of data subsets;

determining, using the processing device, whether the access candidate attributes satisfy the respective set of access requirements corresponding to the at least one of the plurality of data subsets;

obtaining authorization for the second request from a resolution authority if the access candidate attributes fail to satisfy the respective set of access requirements corresponding to the at least one of the plurality of data subsets in response to a determination indicating that access to the at least one of the plurality of data subsets is prohibited; and

in response to obtaining the authorization from the resolution authority, granting the access candidate access to the second security level.

16. (Currently Amended) A system comprising:

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storage means for receiving and storing electronic data using a computer network;

means for evaluating a first request for access to one or more resources in the computer network, wherein the resources secure the electronic data, wherein an evaluation of the first request includes a first comparison of one or more attributes of the access candidate with one or more access requirements associated with the resources, ~~and wherein the one or more attributes of the access candidate are revisable if the first comparison indicates that access is prohibited;~~ such that:

if the first comparison indicates that access is prohibited, means for allowing a sponsor of the access candidate to revise the one or more attributes of the access candidate and resubmit the revised attributes for reconsideration and repeating the determining;

if the first comparison indicates that access is not prohibited, granting access to the one or more resources if the first comparison indicates that access is not prohibited;

means for evaluating a second request for access to the electronic data by the one or more resources, wherein an evaluation of the second request includes a second comparison of the one or more attributes of the access candidate with one or more access requirements associated with the electronic data;

means for obtaining authorization for the second request from a resolution authority if the one or more attributes of the access candidate fails to satisfy one or more access requirements associated with the electronic data in response to the

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evaluation of the second request indicating that access to the electronic data is prohibited; and

means for granting, in response to obtaining the authorization from the resolution authority, the access candidate access to the electronic data using the one or more resources.

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, using a controller in a computer network associated with secured electronic data, a request for access to the secured electronic data in the computer network;

comparing, using the controller, one or more attributes of an access candidate with one or more access requirements associated with the secured electronic data;

~~obtaining~~ requesting authorization for the request from a resolution authority if the one or more attributes of the access candidate fails to satisfy the one or more access requirements associated with the secured electronic data; [[and]]

in response to ~~obtaining or not obtaining~~ receiving the authorization from the resolution authority, granting ~~or denying~~ in whole or in part, using the controller, access to the secured electronic data ~~based, at least in part, on a determination based on access candidate information and request related information, ; and~~

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~~wherein the one or more attributes of the access candidate are revisable based, at least in part, on a determination denying access to the secured electronic data~~
in response to not receiving the authorization from the resolution authority,
allowing a sponsor of the access candidate to revise the one or more attributes of the
access candidate and resubmit the revised attributes for reconsideration and repeating
the comparing.

25. (Currently Amended) The method of Claim 24, further comprising granting access to the secured electronic data ~~in response to a comparison indicating that access by the access candidate is not prohibited~~ if the one or more attributes of the access candidate satisfies the one or more access requirements associated with the secured electronic data.

29. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:
receiving, using a controller in a computer network associated with secured electronic data in the computer network, a request for access to the secured electronic data in the computer network;
comparing, using the controller, one or more attributes of an access candidate with one or more access requirements associated with the secured electronic data [[:]]
such that:

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~~if access by the access candidate is not prohibited, granting, using the controller, access to the secured electronic data in response to a comparison indicating that access by the access candidate is not prohibited;~~

~~obtaining~~ if access by the access candidate is prohibited, requesting authorization for the request from a resolution authority ~~in response to a comparison indicating that access by the access candidate is prohibited; [[and]]~~

in response to ~~obtaining or not obtaining~~ receiving the authorization from the resolution authority, ~~granting or denying~~ in whole or in part, using the controller, access to the secured electronic data ~~based, at least in part, on a determination based on access candidate information and request related information, ; and~~

~~wherein the one or more attributes of the access candidate are revisable based, at least in part, on a determination denying access to the secured electronic data~~

in response to not receiving the authorization from the resolution authority, allowing a sponsor of the access candidate to revise the one or more attributes of the access candidate and resubmit the revised attributes for reconsideration and repeating the comparing.

30. (Currently Amended) An article of manufacture including a non-transitory computer-readable medium having instructions stored thereon, execution of which causes a processing device to perform operations comprising:

receiving, using a processing device, a request for access to a first security level in a computer network;

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comparing, using the processing device, one or more attributes of an access candidate with one or more access requirements associated with the first security level, ~~wherein the one or more attributes of the access candidate are revisable based, at least in part, on a determination indicating that access by the access candidate to the first security level is prohibited;~~ such that:

if access to the first security level is prohibited, allowing a first sponsor of the access candidate to revise the one or more attributes of the access candidate and resubmit the revised attributes for reconsideration and repeating the comparing;

if access to the first security level is not prohibited, granting, using the processing device, access to the first security level based on a comparison indicating that access by the access candidate to the first security level is not prohibited;

receiving, using the processing device, a request for access to a second security level in the computer network;

obtaining authorization for the request from a resolution authority in response to a comparison indicating that access to the second security level by the access candidate is prohibited.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

Claim **1, 7, 15, 16, 24, 29, 30** are allowed based on the following:

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The prior art of record, considered individually or in combination, fails to fairly show or suggest: *determining, using the processing device, whether access candidate attributes satisfy access requirements of the resources, wherein the access candidate attributes are revisable based, at least in part, on a determination indicating that access to the first level is prohibited, such that: if access to the first security level is prohibited, allowing the first sponsor of the access candidate to revise the access candidate attributes and resubmit the revised access candidate attributes for reconsideration and repeating the determining; and if access to the first security level is not prohibited, granting, using the processing device, access to the first security level*, in addition to the other limitations in a manner as recited in claims **1 - 22, 24 - 38, 41 - 44**.

Claims **2 - 6, 38, 31** are allowed due to allowed base claim **1**.

Claims **8 - 14** are allowed due to allowed base claim **7**.

Claim **42 - 44** is allowed due to allowed base claim **15**.

Claims **17 - 22** are allowed due to allowed base claim **16**.

Claim **25 - 28** is allowed due to allowed base claim **24**.

Claim **31 - 37** is allowed due to allowed base claim **30**.

So as indicated by the above statements, Applicant's arguments have been considered persuasive, in light of the set of claims with limitations as well as the enabling portions of the specification. The dependent claims further limit the independent claims and are considered allowable on the same basis as the independent claims as well as for the further limitations set forth.

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Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to CARLTON JOHNSON whose telephone number is (571)270-1032. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday , 8:00 - 5:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nasser Moazzami can be reached on 571-272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

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Carlton V. Johnson
Examiner
Art Unit 2436

CVJ
February 27, 2012

/Nasser Moazzami/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2436